

Exciting New Acquisitions at Visual Media Resources

Concordia AV's Visual Media Resources has some new video and videodisc titles available for viewing at room H-341. Call 848-3443/5 for more information.

Contamination of Quebec's Environment In this video conference, Albert Nantel, Director of the Centre for Toxicology of Québec, explains that since the 1970's, the Centre has been concerned with chemical products which are polluting our environment and consequently affecting the populations.

(French text) Hydro Québec VHS col 57mins 1989

Coping with Exposure to Carcinogens Frederick J. de Serres of North Carolina addresses the topic of coping with exposure to carcinogens in the environment. We have the impression that we live in an ocean of carcinogenic agents. Are we completely defenseless or, on the contrary, can we combat this phenomenon? Hydro Québec VHS col 56mins 1989

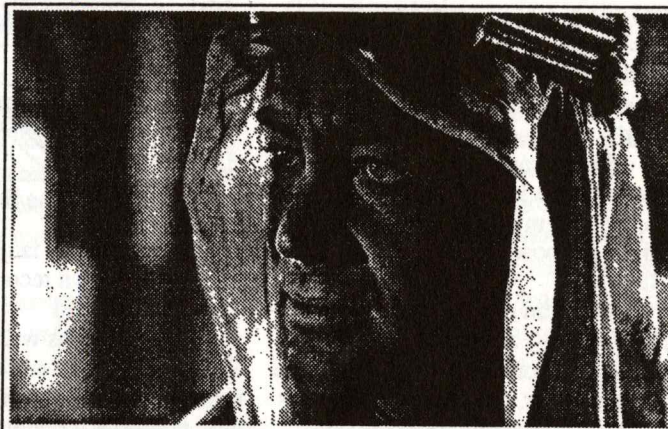
Effects of Food Processing Dr. Jean Amiot of Laval University in Québec investigates the effects of precessing on the nutritional value of food. He explains how the utilization of certain agents in processing can actually transform the chemical and biological construction of the nutrients. (French version) Hydro Québec VHS col 56 mins 1989

Household Refuse: A Resource to Explore According to Normand Maurice, recycling of rubbish starts with individual awareness. Local and municipal participation can only follow from society's conscience. (French version) Hydro Québec VHS col 50mins 1989

Management of Technological Disasters Patrick Lagadec, Research Engineer at the Laboratoire d'Econometrie de l'Ecole Polytechnique, explores the social responsibility of preventing and managing the crises of technological disasters such as Three Mile Island in the United States. (French version) Hydro Québec VHS col 48mins 1989

Noise Contributing to Deafness In this video conference programme, Dr. Raymond Héту, Directeur du Groupe d'acoustique de l'université de Montréal, analyzes the results of scientific research on noise contributing to deafness. (French version) Hydro Québec VHS col 54mins 1989

Toxicity of Smoke from Polymeric Materials North America has one of the worst records with respect to victims of plastic combustion. The primary cause for this mortality can be attributed to the inhalation of gas resulting from the combustion of new materials. Yves Alarie of the University of Pittsburgh



VMR now has David Lean's classic *Lawrence of Arabia*.

discusses new measures of prevention and the question of incineration as it affects the environment. (French version) Hydro Québec VHS col 44mins 1989

Toxins from Moulds: Effects on Health In this Hydro Québec conference, Bruno Schiefer of the University of Saskatchewan speaks about the presence of mycotoxins in certain food products. The effects on one's health can be devastating. The audio with French voice-over makes the English presentation somewhat inaudible. Hydro Québec VHS col 50mins 1989

OTHER NEW TITLES:

Forbidden Planet Fred McLeod Wilcox (VDISC col 99mins 1956)

Invasion of the Body Snatchers Don Siegel (VDISC col 80mins 1956)

It's a Wonderful Life Frank Capra (VDISC b/w 130mins 1946)

Lawrence of Arabia David Lean (VDISC col 217mins 1962)

The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp M. Powell & E. Pressburger (VDISC col 163mins 1943)

Louvre 3 André Hatala (VDISC col 1989)

A Night at the Opera Sam Wood (VDISC b/w 92mins 1935)

North by Northwest Alfred Hitchcock (VDISC col 136mins 1959)

Notorious Alfred Hitchcock (VDISC b/w 101mins 1946)

Rebecca Alfred Hitchcock (VDISC b/w 130mins 1940)

Sabotage Alfred Hitchcock (VDISC b/w 76mins 1936)

(cont'd. p/4)

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Produced on the AMIGA 3000

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It's Computerized Bookings for AV!

Oh good! They've computerized operations at the Hall Building Equipment Depot (H-421). New things may be possible that were never even considered before.

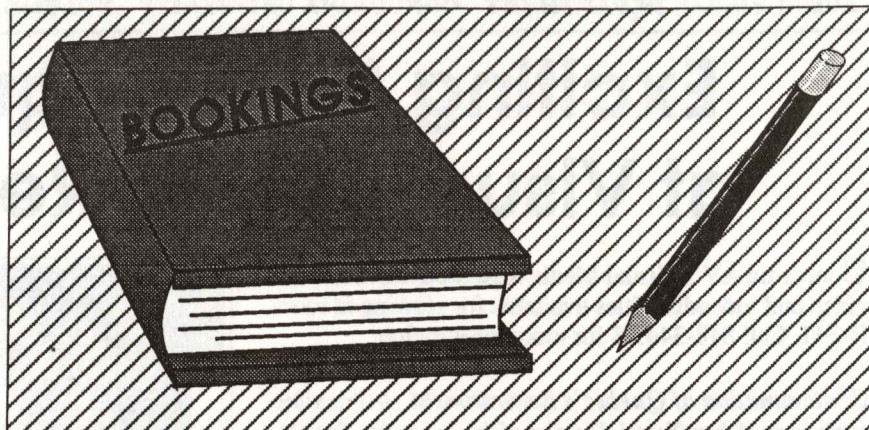
No longer will the documents I get be an illegible scrawl. Soon, I should be able to find out exactly when I can have the facility I need. Maybe I'll even be able to book it without having to wait until office hours the next day, or having to phone both campuses. This is progress!

So why am I waiting here? Why does it take longer than it did before to sign out my equipment? Aren't computers supposed to save time? Well, yes. But...

When an operation is first computerized, there is a break in period when everyday transactions seem to take even longer. Also, people's expectations about computers need to be realistic. Computers can't do everything, and those using the computers are still human.

Here are a few points to keep in mind:

- Staff need time to get used to a new order of doing things, to learn the shortcuts, and to fit all the steps into a new rhythm. For years, hands have reached, without thinking, into the bin and grabbed a blank paper form and a pen.



Some of the Bookings relics replaced by recent computerization.

Now they must be taught to turn to the keyboard, open a record, and reach for the barcode wand.

- Some operations will never be faster. Where in the past one could simply scrawl a few words onto a form and then tear off the client's copy, one must now take the time to properly fill in all the required information. At best, one can strive to have the new operation not be too much slower than the old one.
- And, of course, your favourite piece of equipment will not go missing because no one can read the phone number on the form, or because tracking it down requires too much paperwork. Staff should be able to locate it instantly.

- However, there is now a third player to get used to. Computers break down and software malfunctions. Only over time are these wrinkles ironed out.
- The final time savings can sometimes only be seen when the total picture is considered. Not having to shuffle through piles of paper to complete the bookkeeping and not having to re-write the same information several times, staff may have more time to deal with you personally.
- In the long run, computers do not mean less personalized service but, rather, more. Indeed, new services can be designed that were not even possible before.

•Roger Kenner

AVD Bits and Bites

NEW CANON LASER COPIER: A new Canon black and white Laser copier has been installed in MITE AVISTA on the third floor of the Hall Building. This machine permits the copying of half tone materials, editing, slide copying, enlargements up to 800%, and reductions down to 35%. The zoom ratios in the X and Y planes may be set independently.

INTERNATIONAL VIDEO CONVERSION: Transfers of PAL or SECAM VHS video cassettes to NTSC (North American standard) or vice-versa may be made at the Audio Visual Department at either campus for a modest fee. (H-341, AD-105)

LARGE SCREEN VIDEO PROJECTOR: Two new LCD video projectors have been acquired on an experimental basis for showing videos in classrooms. Picture sizes of up to nine feet are possible. The machine weighs 15 kilograms and takes only a few minutes to set up.

SATELLITE DISH: Many professional associations are using satellite conferencing to communicate with their membership. Concordia is now equipped to pick up most North American satellite transmissions and either record them or feed them to a number of locations in the Hall Building.

MACS FOR CLASSROOM USE: MacIntosh SE30s with 4 Mega-byte RAMs and 80 Mega-byte hard drives, equipped with video display cards and LCD tablets, are available for use in classroom presentations. Please contact Bookings on either campus for details.

OPEN HOUSE, ACADEMIC SERVICES: Wednesday, September 18th, Mezzanine, Hall Building, the second annual Academic Services Open House will take place. Come and see innovative displays from the Library, Computing Services, Audio Visual Department, Learning Development Office, Archives and others.

RENOVATIONS & UPGRADING OF FACILITIES: As part of Concordia's campaign to improve facilities for teaching and public assembly spaces, a new sound system has been installed in the Alumni Auditorium in the Hall Building, multi-channel sound and video projection in the cinema in the Visual Arts building. Work is in progress to improve the sound system in the Loyola Chapel. Extensive renovations are in progress in the FC Smith Auditorium which is being converted into a Theatre/Cinema complex. The old stage will become a small teaching/performing area, and the main auditorium a 450 seat cinema/performance venue with a 25 ft. x 30 ft. stage, lighting grid, video projection, and new sound system.

24 HOUR FILM & PHOTO PROCESSING SERVICE: Limo-Colour picks up and delivers films at 11:00 a.m. each day at the Loyola campus AV depot.

The latest in techno goodies

Goodies and Gizmos for Audiophiles

Advanced Cordless Technologies of New Jersey has come up with an alternative to the telephone booth. The new system, now being tested in New York, employs a pocket cordless phone which allows two-way communications within 100 yards of a "telepoint", a low-power receiver/transmitter connected to the telephone network. Each telepoint can handle eight calls simultaneously, with call data recorded for later billing. As well as doing away with the need for coins, waits to place calls and damage by vandals will be greatly reduced. But where will Superman get changed?

Liquid Crystal Display TV projectors are improving dramatically and now threaten to replace bulky rear-projection TVs. Philips, under its Magnavox brand name, will market its new LCD projector later this year. The LC-1000 has a built-in tuner, stereo MTS sound and uses a newly developed halogen lamp giving twice the brightness of current LCD projectors. This nifty toy will sell for around \$8,000 when available in Canada.

Just when you thought it was safe to sit back and enjoy your CD and cassette collection that you'd forked out your hard-earned cash for, Sony and Philips shake your nerves and rattle your wallet by announcing two new audio formats. Sony's Mini-Disc (MD) is a 2-1/2" diameter recordable/erasable disc capable of storing up to 74 minutes of digital audio. The disc is a sandwich of four layers, the recording medium being a layer of terbium ferrite cobalt, ("I thought it would be", I hear you say!) which can be magnetically altered by a recording head when heated by a laser beam. When it cools, the material retains the information ready for playback by the laser beam.

Philips' offering is the Digi-

tal Compact Cassette (DCC). This medium is magnetic tape in a special cassette the same size as a regular one. (In fact, standard analog cassettes can be played on the new machines.) The format is 8-track digital with auto-reverse, so you never need to flip the tape over. Also, an auxiliary track is provided for displaying on an LCD panel such data as titles, playing times or even lyrics of the song being played. (A very useful feature in the case of certain "singers".) As they say, "You pays your money, you takes your chances."

At the Summer Consumer Electronics show in Chicago, Toshiba showed a prototype VCR with a tray for a second VHS cassette. When the first tape runs out, the machine switches automatically to the second tape, giving a total of 16 hours of continuous recording using T-160 cassettes. The 8mm video format, having surpassed VHS in camcorder sales, has taken another step forward with the development of a 16-bit digital stereo standard for the Hi-8 version. This will give a frequency response of 5 Hz to 22 kHz to match both CD and DAT audio.

New York State has initiated

a "Star DWI" programme. Drivers having cellular phones can report other drivers they suspect may be intoxicated by dialling * DWI (Driving While under the Influence). The call is free and connects directly to the police, who take particulars of the suspect and dispatch a car to investigate. Who is watching the driver making the call, one wonders.

HDTV update... Even though wide screen TV sets with HDTV capability are on sale in Europe, there is a mounting uncertainty about the commitment to the analog HD-MAC system. Certain industry leaders are urging the European community to put a hold on HD-MAC and wait until the US has selected what will almost certainly be a digital simulcast system which the FCC has indicated it will approve in 1993.

TONY'S TIPS

When trying to get a screw started in a confined space, dab a little of the red wax from certain cheeses onto the tip of your screwdriver. This holds the screw, making the task much easier.

•Tony Techrat

AUDIO VISUAL GOES DAT

The Audio Visual Department has acquired Digital Audio Tape (DAT) recorders for use in the following areas: AVISTA Downtown, the Sound Studios in the Visual Arts Building, and the Sound Studio on the Loyola Campus. Also equipped with DAT recorders are the Music and Education departments.

Digital Audio Tape recorders offer a number of advantages over the analog reel-to-reel machines they replace. The most significant of these is the quality of the actual recording, which is essentially noise-free and offers an extended frequency response.

Another important aspect is cost. A DAT recorder is priced at about one fifth the cost of a studio reel-to-reel analog tape recorder. In addition, tape cost is lower per hour of recorded material.

Problems of interchangeability of recordings such as track format, noise reduction system, record equalization, and speed are eliminated because a DAT can be recorded here and played back perfectly anywhere in the world.

Tune into CANAL:

Television Concordia-Style

CANAL (The Corporation for the Advancement of New Applications of Languages) is a non-profit organization set up as a consortium of educational institutions, to provide facilities for the broadcast of formal courses and other educational programming on the public television networks.

As of June 1990, the consortium consists of eleven active members, including Concordia University. These institutions provide the financial base for programming, operations and distribution, and also assume responsibility for the development and production of materials intended for formal adult education.

CANAL's role is to serve as the co-ordinating body between the production units of the member institu-

tions, and the distributors and broadcasters.

CANAL provides a unique and original service to its member institutions that enables adults, living in the Montréal region, Québec City, Sherbrooke, St-Gabriel, Terrebonne, Lachute, Ste-Agathe, Granby, Sorel, St-Hyacinthe, Valleyfield and Chicoutimi to continue their education.

A number of courses are also broadcast province-wide on the Radio Québec network.

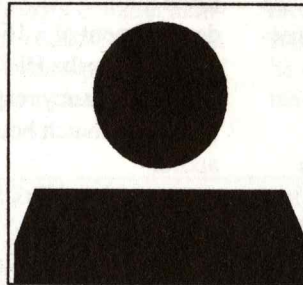
For more information call (514) 848-3440; or to register, call (514) 848-3955.

Check your TV guide and tune in this fall to Concordia's introductory Anthropology course on CANAL!

INTRODUCTION TO CULTURE: ANTHROPOLOGY 202

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SUNDAY	SATURDAY*
21:30	00:00	15:00	08:30	20:00	09:00
SEPT 9- DEC 2	SEPT 10- DEC 3	SEPT 11- DEC 4	SEPT 13- DEC 6	SEPT 15- DEC 8	SEPT 14- DEC 7
* Radio Québec					

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More New VMR Titles

(cont'd. from front)

Secret Agent Alfred Hitchcock
(VDISC b/w 86mins 1936)

Sex, Lies and Videotape Steven
Soderbergh (VDISC col 100mins
1989)

Showboat James Whale (VDISC
b/w 110mins 1989)

Some Like it Hot Billy Wilder
(VDISC b/w 121mins 1959)

Vertigo Alfred Hitchcock
(VDISC col 128mins 1958)

West Side Story Robert Wise
(VDISC col 150mins 1961)

The Wizard of Oz Victor
Fleming (VDISC col 102mins
1939)

• compiled by
Pina Sblendorio